

REMARKS:

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that the Examiner indicates that claims 2, 6, 9, and 13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent format and to include the limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants are amending claims 1, 6, 8 and 13, are adding new claims 15-17, and are canceling original claim 7, without prejudice to the subject matter claimed thereby. Thus, claims 1-6 and 8-17 currently are pending and are subject to examination in the above-captioned patent application. No new matter is added by the forgoing amendments, and these amendments are fully supported by the specification. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the above-captioned patent application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

In the Office Action mailed November 2, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-5, 7-8, 10-12, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as allegedly being anticipated by Eida et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,909,081, hereinafter "Eida"). To the extent that this rejection remains applicable in view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, as follows.

The organic EL display panel of Applicants' independent claim 1 includes: 1) a centrally located luminescent area containing a plurality of organic EL devices, 2) edge areas which are non-luminescent, and 3) transmission vision preventing means located in the edge areas. Applicants' independent claim 8 includes corresponding method steps. The present invention described in independent claims 1 and 8 prevents an

undesired transmission vision through the front side of the display panel, and thus provides improved contrast of the display panel.

In contrast to Applicants' claimed invention as set forth in independent claims 1 and 8, Eida describes, at col. 6, lines 47-52, a light emission apparatus containing a black matrix 9b disposed between the fluorescent layers or color layers to prevent light leakage so as to promote the visibility of multi-color emitted light. Although Eida's black matrix 9b may be located in non-luminescent areas (extremely small areas), such extremely small non-luminescent areas are located only in the central luminescent (display) area, and **are not located in edge areas of the light emission apparatus.** For example, Eida's black matrix 9b is provided only for preventing light interference between adjacent light emission pixels, and does not prevent an undesired transmission vision through the front side of the apparatus.

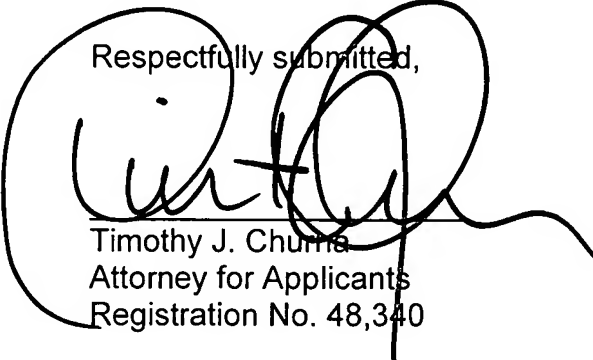
Further, Eida's transmission vision preventing means are located on the light emission side of the apparatus, while the transmission vision preventing means of the claimed invention are located on the opposite side to the light emission side, thereby preventing an undesired transmission vision through the front side of the display panel. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the anticipation rejection of independent claims 1 and 8 at least for these reasons.

Claims 3-5, 7, 10-12, and 14 depend from allowable, independent claims 1 and 8, respectively. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the anticipation rejection of claims 3-5, 7, 10-12, and 14 at for this reason.

CONCLUSION:

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-captioned patent application is in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that an in-person or telephonic interview with Applicants' representatives would expedite the prosecution of the above-captioned patent application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney of records. Applicants are enclosing a check in the amount of \$200 covering the requisite large entity fee for one independent claim in excess of three independent claims. Nevertheless, in the event of any variance between the fees determined by Applicants and those determined by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, please charge or credit any such variance to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket No. 107156-00232.

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy J. Churnia
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 48,340

Customer No. 004372

ARENT FOX, PLLC

1050 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Suite 400

Washington, D.C. 20036-5339

Telephone No. (202) 715-8434

Facsimile No. (202) 638-4810

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